

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application No. 10/750,020

Applicant: THALANANY.

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Examiner: Shah, Paras D

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INTERVIEW SUMMARY RECORD

Sir:

The Applicants wish to thank Examiner Shah for the courtesy of an interview on May 5, 2008. The Applicants' representatives, Dimitry Kapmar and Phillip Pippenger, discussed independent claims 1, 21, and 44 in light of various aspects of the application, such as automatically requesting floor control by commencing speech without the need to push a separate push-to-talk (PTT) button, as well as removal of influence of naturally loud talkers on the floor control decision by weighting down speech energy levels with prior successful floor control attempts.

Rigstad and Dorenbosch references were discussed. Applicants' representatives pointed out that the round robin algorithm of Dorenbosch, where a participant with a fewest number of grants is given floor control, is not used to remove bias toward another floor control parameter, such as bias toward naturally loud talkers with high speech energy levels, since Dorenbosch requires the user to press a button to initiate a floor control request. A threshold of dependent claim 13 was also discussed. Specifically, the Applicants' representatives pointed out the absence of a predetermined threshold of successful floor control attempts in both Rigstad and Dorenbosch. The Examiner indicated that current amendments overcome the primary reference (Rigstad) and that an additional search will be performed.

Respectfully submitted,

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